

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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DRAFTED BY ARA:TATODMAN:JN

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NSC -C. DODSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, CS

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS BY AMBASSADOR
JOSE RAFAEL ECHEVERRIA

1. AFTER EXPRESSING WARM PRAISE FOR THE EXAMPLE OF DEMOCRACY WHICH COSTA RICA GIVES TO THE WORLD, THE PRESIDENT TOLD AMBASSADOR JOSE RAFAEL ECHEVERRIA THAT HE HAD WRITTEN TO PRESIDENT CARAZO ABOUT SOME OF THE MAJOR ISSUES OF INTEREST IN OUR RELATIONS INCLUDING: THE REGULATION OF TUNA FISHING; THE U.S. INTENTION NOT TO SEEK TO REMOVE COSTA RICAN SUGAR FROM GSP; AND U.S. CONCERN OVER INCREASING TEXTILE EXPORTS. HE SAID HE CONSIDERED THESE PRESIDENTIAL LETTERS TO BE AN EXCELLENT WAY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE AND HE WAS SURE THAT ALL OF THE ISSUES WOULD BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY.

2. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE WARM WELCOME GIVEN TO MRS. CARTER DURING HER RECENT VISIT
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TO COSTA RICA FOR THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT CARAZO AND SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT THE COSTA RICAN YOUTH SYMPHONY HAD BEEN ABLE TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO PERFORM.

3. AMBASSADOR ECHEVERRIA AGREED THAT GIVEN THE VERY CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES AND THE SIMILARITY OF OUR APPROACH TO PROBLEMS, HE

WAS CERTAIN THAT THE ISSUES MENTIONED BY THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE RESOLVED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. HE SAID ONE POINT IN THE EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE THAT WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO COSTA RICA IS THAT FOR PURPOSES OF LOANS COSTA RICA IS TREATED AS A DEVELOPED COUNTRY, WHILE IN FACT IT IS STILL STRUGGLING TO DEVELOP AND DESERVES THE CONSIDERATE TREATMENT AND TERMS GIVEN THE LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IT SHOULD NOT BE PENALIZED FOR USING ITS RESOURCES WELL.

4. THE PRESIDENT INVITED AMBASSADOR ECHEVERRIA TO ASK TO SEE HIM PERSONALLY ANY TIME THERE WAS ANY MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE WHICH COULD NOT BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

5. EARLIER, DURING THE PHOTO-TAKING, THE PRESIDENT DESCRIBED COSTA RICA AS PERHAPS THE FINEST EXAMPLE OF A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY AND AMBASSADOR ECHEVERRIA RESPONDED WITH WORDS OF PRAISE FOR THE U.S. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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